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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/067,368	02/07/2002	Kiyomi Sakamoto	2001_1809A	7446

513 7590 02/10/2005

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SUITE 800  
WASHINGTON, DC 20006-1021

EXAMINER
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YOUNG, JOHN L

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3622

DATE MAILED: 02/10/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

10/067,368

Applicant(s)

SAKAMOTO ET AL.

Examiner

John L Young

Art Unit

3622

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 07 February 2002.  
2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.  
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13 is/are pending in the application.  
4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.  
5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.  
6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13 is/are rejected.  
7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.  
8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.  
10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).  
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:  
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_

- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_  
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)  
6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## **NON-FINAL REJECTION**

### **DRAWINGS**

1. This application has been filed with drawings that are considered informal; said drawings are acceptable for examination purposes. The review process for drawings that are included with applications on filing has been modified in view of the new requirement to publish applications at eighteen months after the filing date of applications, or any priority date claimed under 35 U.S.C. §§119, 120, 121, or 365.

### **CLAIM REJECTIONS — 35 U.S.C. §103(a)**

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. §103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability

shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was  
made.

2. Claims 1-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over  
Small. US 5,791,991 (Aug. 11, 1998) (herein referred to as "Small").

As per independent claim 1, Small (FIG. 1) shows "A data transmission system in  
which data communications is performed between first data terminal equipment placed on  
a bonus awarding side, and a second data terminal equipment used by a user who is  
entitled to receive the bonus . . . a determination part . . . a bonus awarding part. . . ."

Small lacks explicit recitation of: "a first bonus identifier storage . . . [and] a  
bonus-attached file. . . ."

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the  
invention that Small at least (FIG. 1) as well as Small (FIG. 2; FIG. 8; col. 1, ll. 5-67;  
col. 2, ll. 1-67; col. 3, ll. 1-67; col. 4, ll. 1-67; col. 5, ll. 1-67; col. 6, ll. 1-67; col. 7, ll. 1-  
67; col. 8, ll. 1-67; and col. 9, ll. 1-25) inherently shows: : "a first bonus identifier  
storage . . . [and] a bonus-attached file. . . ." as well as the rest of the elements and  
limitations of claim 1, because modification and interpretation of the cited disclosure of  
Small would have provided means for "*an interactive electronic display terminal. . . .*"  
(See Small (col. 3, ll. 50-67)) based on the motivation to modify Small so as to "*provide  
an improved consumer product promotion method. . . .*" (see Small (col. 3, ll. 50-67)).

As per dependent claims 2-8, Small shows the system of claim 1.

Small lacks explicit recitation of some of the “bonus-attached file” elements of claims 2-8.

Official Notice is taken that both the concepts and the advantages of the “bonus-attached file” elements of claims 2-8 were notoriously well known and expected in the art at the time of the invention, and it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify and interpret the disclosure of Small cited above as showing all of the elements and limitations of claims 2-8; because modification and interpretation of the cited disclosure of Small would have provided means for “*an interactive electronic display terminal. . .*” (See Small (col. 3, ll. 50-67)) based on the motivation to modify Small so as to “*provide an improved consumer product promotion method. . .*” (see Small (col. 3, ll. 50-67)).

Claim 9 is rejected for substantially the same reasons as claim 1.

Claim 10 is rejected for substantially the same reasons as claim 1.

Claim 11 is rejected for at least the same reasons as claim 1. (i.e., a recording medium is inherently associated with a computer system).

Claim 12 is rejected for substantially the same reasons as claim 1.

Claim 13 is rejected for substantially the same reasons as claim 1.

### CONCLUSION

3. Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner for Patents

P. O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Any response to this action may be sent via facsimile to either:

(703) 746-7239 or (703) 872-9314 (for formal communications EXPEDITED

PROCEDURE) or (703) 746-7239 (for formal communications marked AFTER-FINAL)

or

(703) 746-7240 (for informal communications marked PROPOSED or DRAFT).

Hand delivered responses may be brought to:

Seventh floor Receptionist

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2451 Crystal Drive

Arlington, Virginia.

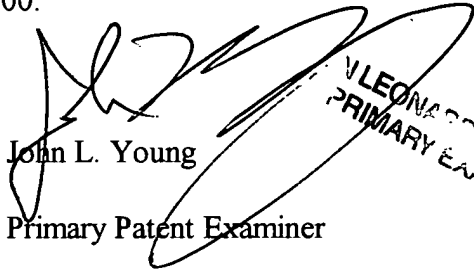
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to John L. Young who may be reached via telephone at (703) 305-3801 or (571) 272-6725. The examiner can normally be reached Monday through Friday between 8:30 A.M. and 5:00 P.M.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Eric Stamber, may be reached at (703) 305-8469 or (571) 272-6724.

Application Number: 10/067,368 (Sakamoto et al.)  
Art Unit: 3622

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Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

  
John L. Young

Primary Patent Examiner

VLEONARD J. JONES, ESQ.  
PRIMARY EXAMINER

February 7, 2005